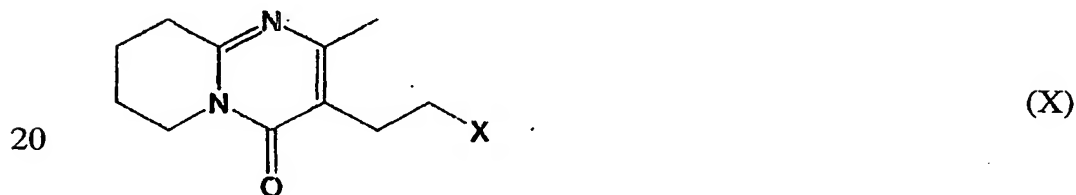
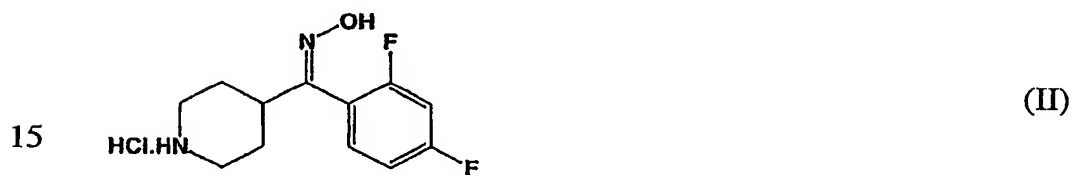
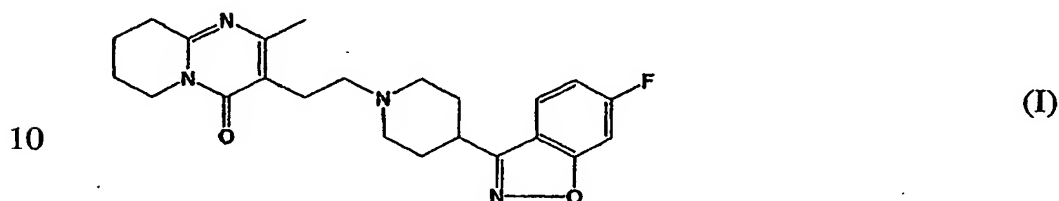


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of preparing risperidone of formula (I) which comprises reacting the oxime derivative of formula (II) and a haloethylpyrimidine derivative of formula (X) in an aqueous alkali hydroxide solution having an alkali hydroxide concentration in the range of 20 to 40%:



wherein, X is a halogen.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the alkali hydroxide is selected from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, lithium hydroxide and a mixture thereof.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the alkali hydroxide is potassium hydroxide.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the aqueous alkali solution is employed

in an amount ranging from 5 to 15 ml based on 1g of the oxime derivative of formula (II).

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the haloethylpyrimidine derivative of formula (X) is employed in an amount ranging from 1.0 to 2.0 equivalents based on the amount of the oxime derivative of formula (II).

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the reaction is conducted at a temperature in the range of 100 to 140°C.